

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1. (Currently Amended)** A computer-implement compliance management method for estimating an extent to which a plurality of enterprise elements comply with applicable rules, the method comprising:

providing an enterprise knowledge-base containing information representative of enterprise elements;

providing a rules knowledge-base containing information representative of the applicable rules;

defining rule associations between the applicable rules and the enterprise elements;
[[and]]

assigning compliance scores to the rule associations, the compliance scores being indicative of an extent to which the enterprise elements comply with the applicable rules; and

providing, to a compliance officer, a tangible output representative of the extent.

- 2. (Original)** The method of claim 1, further comprising graphically displaying the compliance scores.
- 3. (Original)** The method of claim 2, wherein displaying the compliance scores comprises displaying a cardinality of rule associations having a selected range of compliance scores.

4. **(Original)** The method of claim 2, wherein displaying the compliance scores comprises displaying a histogram chart of a cardinality of rule associations having each of a plurality of ranges of compliance scores.
5. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying a tree view of the enterprise knowledge-base.
6. **(Original)** The method of claim 5, wherein displaying the tree view comprises displaying a compliance indicator in association with an enterprise element, the compliance indicator being indicative of a compliance score associated with the enterprise element.
7. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, further comprising associating remediation policies with the rule associations.
8. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 1, further comprising providing a graphical user interface for controlling ~~[[the]]~~ a citation process and ~~[[the]]~~ a evaluation process.
9. **(Currently Amended)** A computer-readable medium having encoded thereon software for estimating an extent to which enterprise elements comply with applicable rules, the software having instructions that, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:
 - provide an enterprise knowledge-base containing information representative of the enterprise elements;
 - provide rules knowledge-base containing information representative of the applicable rules;
 - define rule associations between the applicable rules and the enterprise elements; and
 - assign compliance scores to the rule associations, the compliance scores being indicative of an extent to which the enterprise elements comply with the applicable rules.

- 10. (Original)** The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the software further comprises instructions for causing the computer to graphically display the compliance scores.
- 11. (Cancelled)**
- 12. (Cancelled)**
- 13. (Original)** The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the software further comprises instructions for causing the computer to display a tree view of the enterprise knowledge-base.
- 14. (Cancelled)**
- 15. (Original)** The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the software further comprises instructions for causing the computer to associating remediation policies with the rule associations.
- 16. (Currently Amended)** The computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the software further comprises instructions for causing the computer to providing a graphical user interface for controlling ~~[[the]]~~ a citation process and ~~[[the]]~~ a evaluation process.
- 17. (Currently Amended)** A compliance-management system for estimating an extent to which a plurality of enterprise elements comply with applicable rules, the method comprising:
- a data storage subsystem having encoded thereon
 - an enterprise knowledge-base containing information representative of enterprise elements, and
 - a rules knowledge-base containing information representative of applicable rules;
 - and

a processing subsystem in data communication with the data storage subsystem, the processing subsystem being configured to execute

a citation process for defining rule associations between the applicable rules and the enterprise elements; and

an evaluation process for assigning compliance scores to the rule associations, the compliance scores being indicative of an extent to which the enterprise elements comply with the applicable rules.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the processing subsystem is configured to execute a compliance-display process for graphically displaying the compliance scores.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the compliance-display process is configured to display a histogram chart of a cardinality of rule associations having each of a plurality of ranges of compliance scores.

21. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the processing subsystem is configured to execute a tree-view process for providing a tree view of the enterprise knowledge-base.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the tree-view process is configured to display a compliance indicator in association with an enterprise element, the compliance indicator being indicative of a compliance score associated with the enterprise element.

23. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the processing subsystem is configured to execute a remediation process for associating remediation policies with the rule associations.

24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the processing subsystem ~~[[us]]~~ is configured to execute a switchboard process for providing a graphical user interface for controlling the citation process and the evaluation process.